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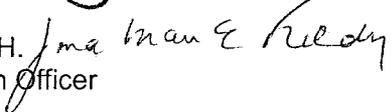
FRED LEAF
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
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June 16, 2005

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D. 
Director and Chief Medical Officer

Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. 
Public Health Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **2005 WEST NILE VIRUS ACTION PLAN, MONTHLY FOLLOW-UP REPORT**

On March 8, 2005 we presented the Board our West Nile Virus (WNV) Prevention and Surveillance Plan for 2005. This is the third monthly follow-up report describing WNV prevention and surveillance activities in 2005.

So far in 2005, no human or equine WNV cases have been identified that were definitely infected this year within Los Angeles County (LAC). One sentinel chicken from Antelope Valley showing evidence of WNV-infection in late May, the first in Los Angeles County, was confirmed positive on June 7, 2005 by the State of California Viral and Rickettsial Diseases Laboratory. Five WNV-infected dead birds have been identified in LAC; the most recent WNV-infected bird was identified in the City of Long Beach. There have been no WNV-infected mosquito pools detected by any of the mosquito abatement districts.

WNV educational cards have now been finalized in Spanish (attached) as well as English and are being distributed to local governmental community agencies. Cards in 6 other languages are at the printer and will be available shortly. These materials are also available in all public health field offices for local distribution.

Attached is the Summary Action Plan with the status of the specific activities. We will provide you with our next status report by July 16, 2005. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, let either of us know.

TLG:JEF:RC:sc
502:011 REF 2813 (A007LM2005 #3)

Attachments

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

**WEST NILE VIRUS SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION
SUMMARY ACTION PLAN – Updated June 7, 2005**

Agency	WNV Activity	Description	Completion Date	Implementation Date	Notes
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Clinician letter -- mandatory WNV reporting and prevention message	Completed	April 18, 2005	On July 1, 2004, the Health Officer made WNV infection reportable by clinicians and laboratories within one working day.
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Laboratory letter -- mandatory WNV reporting of results	Completed	April 18, 2005	
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Clinical consultation on WNV to medical providers	Continuous year-round	Continuous	Schedule medical grand rounds for physicians
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Active surveillance at selected high risk areas within LAC	Continuous WNV Season	Continuous	Hospitals in eastern county were invited to join active surveillance project. Hospital will report all WNV tests performed in house or will receive free WNV testing by PHL.
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Update database and epidemiologic case history forms	Continuous	Date of first case	Ongoing data cleaning
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Facilitate HIPAA Training for Mosquito Abatement District Management staff	Completed	April 29, 2005	ACDC facilitated LADHS HIPAA Training for key MAD management staff.
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Conduct Epidem. investigation	Continuous year-round	Date of first case	ACDC professional staff review and investigate all suspected WNV case reports, clinical laboratory reports, and blood bank positive donors.

**WEST NILE VIRUS SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION
SUMMARY ACTION PLAN – Updated June 7, 2005**

Agency	WNV Activity	Description	Completion Date	Implementation Date	Notes
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Communication to local mosquito & vector control (MVCD) districts and CADHS	Continuous year-round	Date of first case	ACDC communicates pertinent location to local MVCD so it can assess and apply control measures if warranted.
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Communication to State DHS	Continuous year-round	Continuous	To synchronize statistics with state
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Summary reports of human cases	Continuous year-round	Date of first case	Analysis of confirmed cases on weekly or monthly basis. Update LAC DHS web page with accurate epidemiologic information.
DHS ACDC	Human surveillance	Analysis of human WNV surveillance data	Continuous year-round	Continuous	Generate weekly surveillance report - send by e-mail to appropriate agencies - post on website for public
DHS ACDC	Health Education	Coordinate prevention messages, press conferences and press releases with MVCDs and State	Continuous	Continuous	Collaborate to extent possible on standard public health messages and special releases, informed by survey.
DHS ACDC	Health Education	Update WNV educational cards (palm cards) to reflect findings of LA Survey.	In process Available: English, Spanish	July 15, 2005	Pending: Korean, Chinese, Tagalog, Farsi, Vietnamese, Russian, Thai, Cambodian, Arabic
DHS ACDC	Health Education	How to Mosquito Proof Your Home & Community	Completed	March 16, 2005	Parks & Recreations will partner with distribution of health education materials

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SUMMARY ACTION PLAN – Updated June 7, 2005**

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DHS ACDC	Health Education	Toll free public information line in multiple languages	Completed	May 11, 2005 Update additional languages	Review and update messages monthly or as needed.
DHS ACDC	Health Education	Web page provides up-to-date figures on WNV activity in LAC. Links to appropriate sites for more information; access to downloadable materials	Ongoing	Ongoing	
DHS ACDC	WNV comprehensive status report	Provide information on cumulative human, bird, and mosquito indicators.	Continuous year-round	Continuous	Information to be e-mailed to appropriate agencies, posted on WNV web site
DHS CHS	Speakers Bureau (Area Health Officers)	Update 2004 slide set with new information from LA Survey.	Completed	April 12, 2005	172 presentations were provided by the speaker's bureau in 2004.
LAC VPH	Dead Bird Surveillance	Log calls from the public and MVCDs on dead birds. Arrange pick-up.	Continuous	Continuous	Arrange for test if bird has died recently (24-48 h) and belongs to corvid or raptor families.
LAC VPH	Dead Bird Surveillance	Perform VecTest (quick screening test) on dead birds	Continuous	Continuous	Confirmatory testing on positive birds is performed by LACPHL and California Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL)

**WEST NILE VIRUS SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION
SUMMARY ACTION PLAN – Updated June 7, 2005**

Agency	WNV Activity	Description	Completion Date	Implementation Date	Notes
LAC EH	Collaboration	Work with board officials, county agencies and cities in developing long term, permanent mosquito control services to uncovered areas through annexation or contractual agreements	Continuous	Continuous	Baldwin Park South Pasadena La Canada-Flintridge Santa Clarita Lancaster/Palmdale Hwy 14 corridor
LAC EH	Collaboration	Respond to mosquito concerns in those cities and communities without routine mosquito surveillance and control services	Continuous	Continuous	Does not include abatement.
LAC EH	Public education and inter-departmental training	Routine literature distribution throughout all cities within the county and provide training to other departments	Continuous	Continuous	Materials from ACDC
LAC EH	Collaboration	Provide staff to DHS Speakers Bureau	Continuous	Continuous	
LAC EH	Coordination	Facilitate MVCD communications on mosquito and bird findings	Continuous	Continuous	Represent DHS in technical meetings on vector surveillance and control
Local MVCDs	Sentinel chickens Surveillance	Maintain sentinel chicken flocks at various geographic locations	Continuous	Continuous	Chickens are bled biweekly and tested at VRDL

**WEST NILE VIRUS SURVEILLANCE AND PREVENTION
SUMMARY ACTION PLAN – Updated June 7, 2005**

Agency	WNV Activity	Description	Completion Date	Implementation Date	Notes
Local MVCDs	Mosquito Surveillance	Test mosquito pools for arboviruses including SLE, WEE, and WNV	Continuous	Continuous	The CA DHS reports biweekly mosquito surveillance results in <i>CA Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin</i>
Local MVCDs	Mosquito Abatement	MVCDs receive reports from ACDC and VPH to identify areas of human and animal case activity	Continuous	Continuous	Mosquito larva abatement via larvacide, mosquito fish, and habitat elimination. Controlling adult mosquitoes is not a primary focus of any MVCD
Local MVCDs	Dead Bird Surveillance	Sites for positive birds are evaluated for possible mosquito abatement	Continuous	Continuous	
Local MVCDs	Public Education	Districts' mission includes promotion of personal responsibility to reduce mosquito breeding sites.	Continuous	Continuous	Each MVCD serves a defined catchment area. Outreach thru mailings, billboards, and mass media

RC:sc

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